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ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

R221

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029072

S040652

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S040652

ACTION: VE (02)

INFO: DAND (02) PJ (01) MM (01) JPL (01) JRN (01) ARA (01) PPC (01)
CAS (01) PPA (01) EPSC (04) DEPC (01) CO (02) EC (01) PE (01)
DCAR (01) DEP (01) TOGY (01) BR (01)

19/11522 A1 RD (TOTAL COPIES: 026)

ACTION ARA-00

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-00 ACDE-00 ACQ-00 OODE-00 DOEE-00 SRPP-00
DS-00 UTEO-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 ID-00 L-00
ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 ONB-01 PA-00 PM-00 PPS-00
P-00 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00
OPL-02 G-00 FDIC-01 NFAT-00 SAS-00 7016VR 141457Z OCT 98
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1550
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
USCINCSO MIAMI FL
CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USIA WASHDC 1832
USDOC WASHDC 3127

UNCLAS CARACAS 003066

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, VE

SUBJECT: WHAT'S UP FOR GRABS IN THE UPCOMING NOVEMBER ELECTION

SUMMARY

1. VENEZUELA'S NEARLY 11 MILLION REGISTERED VOTERS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ELECT 536 CONGRESSIONAL, STATE LEGISLATIVE, AND GUBERNATORIAL POSITIONS ON NOVEMBER 8. FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF THESE POSITIONS. END SUMMARY.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

2. ON NOVEMBER 8, VENEZUELA'S 10,991,482 REGISTERED VOTERS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE FOR THEIR SENATORS (18 SEATS), CONGRESSIONAL DEPUTIES (187), LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES (378), AND GOVERNORS (23).

SENATORS

3. EACH OF THE 23 STATES AND THE FEDERAL DISTRICT OF CARACAS ELECTORS THROUGH A PARTY LIST ELECTORAL SYSTEM. EACH PARTY PRESENTS A LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR EACH STATE AND THE FEDERAL DISTRICT FROM WHICH IT WILL DRAW ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF POSITIONS THE PARTY WINS. VOTERS DO NOT VOTE FOR CANDIDATES BUT FOR A PARTY AND EACH VOTER HAS ONE VOTE. THE PARTY WHICH WINS THE MOST VOTES WINS THE FIRST SENATORIAL POSITION. IF THAT PARTY WINS BY DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE SECOND PARTY, IT ALSO WINS THE SECOND SENATORIAL POSITION. IF NOT, THEN THE SECOND PARTY

WINS THE SECOND SENATORIAL POSITION.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ADOLPH H EISNER
DATE/CASE ID: 16 NOV 2009 200503654

CONGRESSIONAL DEPUTIES

4. THE 187 CONGRESSIONAL DEPUTY SEATS ARE DIVIDED PROPORTIONALLY AMONG THE STATES BASED ON POPULATION. OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEPUTIES ASSIGNED TO A STATE, HALF ARE DETERMINED BY DIRECT ELECTION. IN EACH ELECTORAL DISTRICT THE CANDIDATE WITH THE MOST VOTES WINS. THE OTHER HALF ARE DETERMINED THROUGH PARTY LISTS. THE PARTIES ARE GIVEN A PROPORTIONAL NUMBER OF SEATS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF VOTES THEY RECEIVED IN THE STATE. IF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEPUTIES ASSIGNED TO A STATE IS ODD, THEN THE "EXTRA" SEAT IS AWARDED PROPORTIONALLY, I.E. BY PARTY LIST. THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE NUMBER OF CONGRESSIONAL DEPUTIES BY STATE AND BY ELECTORAL SYSTEM.

STATE	TOTAL NO. OF DEPUTIES	NO. ELECTED DIRECTLY	NO ELECTED BY LIST
DISTRITO FEDERAL	15	7	8
VARGAS	1	1	-
ANZOATEGUI	9	4	5
APURE	3	1	2
ARAGUA	11	5	6
BARINAS	4	2	2
BOLIVAR	10	5	5
CARABOBO	16	6	8
COJEDES	3	1	0
FALCON	6	3	3
GUARICO	5	2	3
LARA	12	6	6
MERIDA	6	3	3
MIRANDA	19	9	10
MONAGAS	5	2	3
QUEVA ESPARTA	3	1	2
PORTUGUESA	6	3	3
SUCRE	6	3	3
TACHIRA	8	4	4
TRUJILLO	5	2	3
VARACUY	4	2	2
ZULIA	24	12	12
AMAZONAS	3	1	2
AMACURO	3	1	2
TOTAL	187	88	99

STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

5. THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS ARE SIMILAR TO NATIONAL

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS. OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES ASSIGNED TO A STATE, HALF ARE ELECTED DIRECTLY WHILE THE OTHER HALF ARE ELECTED THROUGH PARTY LISTS. AGAIN, IF THERE IS AN ODD NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE DEPUTIES, THEN THE SEAT WILL BE AWARDED BY PARTY LIST. THIS MEANS THAT OUT OF A TOTAL OF 378 LEGISLATIVE DEPUTIES, 178 ARE ELECTED BY DIRECT VOTE AND 200 ARE ELECTED THROUGH PARTY LISTS.

STATE	TOTAL NO. OF DEPUTIES	NO. ELECTED DIRECTLY	NO. ELECTED BY LIST
DTTD, FEDERAL	0	0	0
VARGAS	0	0	0
AMAZONAS	11	5	5
ANZOATEGUI	21	10	11
APURE	11	6	7

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ARAGUA	23		11		12
BARINAS	15		7		8
BOLIVAR	21		10		11
CARABOBO	23		11		12
COJEDES	11		5		6
DELTA AMACURO	11		5		6
FALCON	17		8		9
GUAPICO	15		7		8
LARA	23		11		12
MERIDA	17		8		9
MIRANDA	23		11		12
MONAGAS	15		7		8
NUEVA ESPARTA	13		6		7
PORTUGUESA	17		8		9
SUCRE	17		8		9
TACHIRA	19		9		10
TRUJILLO	15		7		8
YARACUY	15		7		8
ZULIA	23		11		12

TOTAL	378		178		200

>THE DTTO. FEDERAL AND THE STATE OF VARGAS DO NOT HAVE STATE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES.

GOVERNORS-----

6. THE 23 STATE GOVERNORS ARE ELECTED ACCORD TO WHO IS "FIRST
PAST THE POST", IE. THROUGH DIRECT ELECTIONS IN WHICH THE PERSON
WHO RECEIVES THE MOST VOTES WINS.

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